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Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know when the hon. Minister asked the Inspector-General for this information ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know exactly when the reference was made ; it must be on receipt of the question."

Transfer of the officers of the Registration department.

* 128 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any rule to the effect that officers of the Registration department should be transferred from a place after having served three years therein ; and

(b) if not, why not ?

A.—(a) & (b) No, and the necessity for such a rule has not been felt.

Particulars regarding the registration districts of Palghat, Calicut, Tellicherry and South Kanara.

* 129 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to give the following particulars in regard to each one of the registration districts of Palghat, Calicut, Tellicherry and South Kanara—

(a) the number of registration offices ;

(b) average area of jurisdiction per office in square miles ;

(c) average population per office ;

(d) the number of registering officers ;

(e) average area per officer ;

(f) average population per officer ; and

(g) the receipts, expenditure and surplus income, if any, during the last three years ?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Agriculture

Establishment of an experiment station for testing the utility of artificial manures.

* 130 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the progress made in the establishment of an experiment station for testing the effect of artificial manures on the yield of crops like paddy, cotton and cholam and their nutritive value ?

A.—The Government have sanctioned the conduct of experiments with artificial manures for a period of five years at the Paddy Breeding Station, Maruteru, and work will for the present be confined to the paddy crop. The necessary land has been leased and the experiments have been started. The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Press Communiqué published at page 634 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 2nd April, for details of the scheme. No experiments on nutritive values are contemplated in this station.

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Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" With reference to the last sentence of the answer, may I know if the experiment is proposed to be carried out in any other station ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Not now."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I ask if the Government have not considered that question at all ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" If the trial proves successful, then that question will be considered."

Co-operative Societies

Registration of land mortgage banks in the Presidency.

* 131 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to his answer to question No. 1993 answered on 27th March 1929—

(*a*) whether all the twenty land mortgage banks mentioned therein were registered after due consideration and assurance by the officers of the department that there were prospects of successful working of these banks ;

(*b*) why all of them except a few are not successful ;

(*c*) the dates on which, and the persons by whom the banks at Chengam, Bhavani and Tinnevelly were registered and why they have not even started work ; and

(*d*) who is responsible for registering such nominal organizations ?

A.—(*a*) All the banks were registered after due consideration by the department that there were prospects of successful working. It is not for the officers of the department to give assurances, nor have these banks been promoted by them. The main points on which the department had to be satisfied were that there were persons available and willing to run the bank ; that the locality was such that there were reasonably valuable lands in the immediate vicinity, which could be accepted as security to such an extent that there would be ample scope for business for the bank, with crops not so precarious as to jeopardise its safety ; that there were reasonable prospects of selling debentures. On this last point, which seems to depend largely on the personal reputation of the principal promoters, it is impossible to be quite sure that debentures will actually be sold. One would expect that they would sell more readily in towns than in villages but in point of fact the most successful bank is at Gudlavaleeru, a small village. In every case there are very many assurances from the persons anxious to have a bank registered that there will be an ample sale of debentures ; that, in fact, there were numerous actual promises to take up a considerable quantity.

(*b*) The principal reason is that the promises and assurances by the promoters have not been so far realized and that the banks have in fact failed to sell any debentures.

(*c*) & (*d*) The banks at Chengam, Bhavani and Tinnevelly were registered on 15th July 1927, 29th May 1928 and 2nd August 1926 respectively by the Deputy Registrars concerned with